

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONAL OFFER
AND WAIVER OF RIGHT TO HEARING;
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF ADMINISTRATIVE
CIVIL LIABILITY (ACL) ORDER NO. R3-2021-0025 (UPON EXECUTION)**

City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant
EPL No. R3-2021-0025
Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2017-0030
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0048194
WDID: 3 440102001

By signing below and returning this Acceptance of Conditional Offer and Waiver of Right to Hearing (Acceptance and Waiver) to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board), the City of Santa Cruz (Permittee) hereby accepts Expedited Payment Letter No. R3-2021-0025 (Conditional Offer) to participate in the expedited payment program relating to violations of the Permittee's NPDES permit for the City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant, and waives the right to a hearing before the Central Coast Water Board to dispute the alleged violations described in the notice of violation (NOV) attached to the Conditional Offer as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

The Permittee agrees that the NOV shall serve as a complaint pursuant to Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 2.5 of the California Water Code and that no separate complaint is required for the Central Coast Water Board to assert jurisdiction over the alleged violations through its enforcement staff. The Permittee agrees to pay the penalties authorized by California Water Code section 13385, as specified in the NOV (expedited payment amount), which shall be deemed payment in full of any civil liability pursuant to Water Code sections 13385 and 13385.1 that otherwise might be assessed for the violations described in the NOV.

Expedited Payment Amount: \$3,000.

The Permittee understands that this Acceptance and Waiver does not address or resolve liability for any violation that is not specifically identified in the NOV.

Upon signature by the Permittee, the Permittee must return this Acceptance and Waiver to:

Thea Tryon
Assistant Executive Officer
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Expedited Payment Letter (EPL) No. R3-2021-0025
Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of
Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R3-2021-0025

The Permittee understands that federal regulations set forth in title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, section 123.27(d)(2)(iii) require the Central Coast Water Board to publish notice of any proposed settlement of this enforcement action and provide at least 30 days for public comment. Accordingly, Central Coast Water Board staff will publish this Acceptance and Waiver for public comment prior to execution by the Executive Officer of the Central Coast Water Board.

The Permittee understands that if significant comments are received in opposition to the Conditional Offer, then the Central Coast Water Board enforcement staff's offer to resolve the violations set forth in the NOV may be withdrawn. In that circumstance, Central Coast Water Board enforcement staff will advise the Permittee of the withdrawal, a revised offer or an administrative civil liability complaint may be issued, and the matter may be set for a hearing before the Central Coast Water Board. For such a liability hearing, the Permittee understands that this Acceptance and Waiver executed by the Permittee will be treated as a settlement communication and will not be used as evidence in that hearing.

If no comments are received within the notice period that cause the Executive Officer to reconsider the Conditional Offer, the Executive Officer will execute the Acceptance and Waiver as Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R3-2021-0025 (Settlement and Order).

The Permittee understands that no payments are due at the time it returns the signed Acceptance and Waiver form to the Central Coast Water Board. The Permittee understands that after the signed Acceptance and Waiver is publicly noticed and executed by the Executive Officer of the Central Coast Water Board, Central Coast Water Board staff will transmit this Acceptance and Waiver as an executed Settlement and Order to the Permittee with payment instructions and due dates. Furthermore, the Permittee understands that full payment of the expedited payment amount by the hereby incorporated due date or dates specified in the transmittal letter and/or invoices associated with the executed Settlement and Order is a condition of this Acceptance and Waiver.

Expedited Payment Letter (EPL) No. R3-2021-0025
Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of
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I hereby affirm that I am duly authorized to act on behalf of and to bind the Permittee in the making and giving of this Acceptance and Waiver and the terms of the Settlement and Order.

By: Anne Hogan
Anne Hogan (Mar 18, 2021 16:12 PDT)
(Signed Name)

3/18/21
(Date)

Anne Hogan, PE
(Printed or typed name)

Wastewater Systems Manager
(Title)

Expedited Payment Letter (EPL) No. R3-2021-0025
Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of
Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R3-2021-0025

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to Water Code section 13323, Government Code section 11415.60, and Resolution No. R3-2014-0043, on behalf of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region.

By: _____

Matthew T. Keeling
Executive Officer
Central Coast Water Board

File Location: R:\RB3\Enforcement\EPLs\2021 SCruz City WWTP\SCruz City WWTP MMP EPL 21-0025
Waiver-Order.docx

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